



2013 Deer Trustee Report

Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

1 of 2

Action Team: Regulations & Season Structure	Hunting Regulations, Seasons, & Bag Limits B.5
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This document shows the original Deer Trustee Report recommendation that the Public Action Team considered when developing proposals for implementing the recommendation in Wisconsin. The Public Action Team's implementation proposal is presented then followed by additional background information.

I. ORIGINAL DEER TRUSTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATION

B.5. Establish a public lands antlerless permit system. A public lands antlerless permit system would address public concerns about potential overharvest of deer on these lands, especially the National Forests, and allow the WDNR to affirm the value of public lands to deer hunters and better respond to the potential impacts of maturing forests and predation on deer populations. During the Town Hall Meetings, we heard many comments about private landowners killing antlerless deer on public lands but not on their own land. This issue could be addressed through the DMAP for public access lands enrolled in the program.

II. PUBLIC ACTION TEAM PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING THE ABOVE RECOMMENDATION

Below is the Public Action Team implementation proposal along with their rationale and supporting evidence, potential implementation obstacles and consideration of the proposal's potential impact on the overall deer management in Wisconsin.

Revised 6-8-13

1. Action Team Implementation Proposal:

- Restrict the days of hunting with antlerless harvest on public lands – public land is defined as any publically owned land. Let the DNR decide the days. Bow hunting and muzzleloader season will remain unchanged. Youth will be exempt from this.

2. Supporting data, references, rationale and other information behind it.

- A recommendation to restrict the number of hunting days on public land for antlerless harvest was supported.
- A recommendation that youth are to be exempt from this restriction was supported.
- A recommendation that antlerless permits would be based on percentage of deer range on public vs. private property was supported.
- A recommendation that opening weekend shall be buck only harvest on public lands and Mon/Tues either sex harvest was not supported.
- A recommendation to restrict the use of antlerless tags exceeding an (x) amount of acreage of public land was not supported.
- A recommendation that Gun deer licenses are limited by a lottery system was not supported.
- A recommendation that a Private landowner with more than 10 acres cannot hunt antlerless deer on public land was not supported.
- Developing additional tags for public vs. private land will be complex and costly for the DNR. DTR survey shows the public is behind the idea of developing a private vs. public land tag system of some sort.



Public Action Team Implementation Proposal

- **June 8 Revision** of B-5: Change definition of public land from public access to publically owned lands was supported

3. Consider and describe potential implementation obstacles or drawbacks.

- Game retrieval may cause problems – shoot in private, retrieve on public. Problems with enforcing any quotas, special tags, etc.
- DNR should decide what days to allow antlerless harvest on public land. Need to have a good definition of public land – state, federal, county MFL?

4. Overall, how will this proposal simplify or complicate deer hunting, management, or research in Wisconsin.

- It might cause some confusion and complication with regulation changes and determining days of antlerless harvest